

Confirmation Preparation

Coming Home Catholic values Sacrament Preparation. We believe that a thorough, well-rounded preparation for Confirmation will encourage young Catholics to celebrate Christian living, more fully participate in the Catholic community, and be active witnesses to their faith.

Therefore, the mission of our Preparation Program is to demonstrate joyful living of Catholic faith, promote continued faith exploration, and instill an understanding of the role of faith in everyday life.

Confirmation Team:

- ◆ Confirmand - adolescent who will participate in sacrament preparation program
- ◆ Parents - adults who will support confirmand in the preparation process
- ◆ Sponsor - Baptized and Confirmed Catholic adult who will support the confirmand in his/her spiritual journey
- ◆ Priest - director of sacrament preparation program
- ◆ Prayer Partners - adult Catholic who will devote at least 10 minutes each day praying for the confirmand and the Confirmation team
- ◆ Spiritual Director - adult Catholic with expertise in directing the faith journeys of others. Meet 2-3 times per year
- ◆ Teaching Team - Catholic adults who are both gifted teachers and people who live their Catholic faith
- ◆ Catholic Community - *“It is fundamentally important that initiatory catechesis ... for children and young people ... are closely linked with the catechetical endeavor of the Christian community, so that the particular Church may grow harmoniously and that its evangelizing activity may spring from authentic sources.”* (General Directory for Catechesis #72)

Schedule:

- ▶ Confirmation Retreat
- ▶ Class: Saturday mornings 8:30 am - 10:00 am, as scheduled
- ▶ Community & Service Activities: Ongoing scheduling
- ▶ Spring Retreat

Texts required:

1. Catechism of the Catholic Church
2. New American Bible
3. Catholic Prayer Book

Goals and Objectives:

About the Catechism:

The Confirmation Preparation classes are designed to incorporate the teachings of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. The Catechism is divided into four sections, and has one essential goal to communicate: **“The whole concern of doctrine and its teaching must be directed to the love that never ends.”** (CCC #15)

There are four sections in the Catechism:

1. **Profession of Faith** - the essentials of our faith based on Scripture and Doctrine
2. **Celebration of the Christian Mystery** - celebrating liturgy and the sacraments
3. **Life in Christ** - loving and serving our community
4. **Christian Prayer** - loving and serving God

General Goals: At the completion of the Confirmation preparation course the students will:

1. **Sacred Scripture** - Read and understand Sacred Scripture as God’s Word speaking to them.
2. **Doctrine** - Know and understand the basic teachings of the Church and how they apply to their lives.
3. **Sacraments** - Know and appreciate the centrality of the Eucharist and importance of the Sacraments in the life of Catholics.
4. **Community** - Understand the role of the faith community (the Catholic Church) into which they have been baptized and through which they grow in faith to mature discipleship.
5. **Community** - Know what it means to have membership in the local, universal Catholic Church.
6. **Service** - Engage in service to and exercise responsible stewardship for the various communities to which they belong: family, school, parish, civic, national, global.
7. **Prayer** - Experience and appreciate a variety of prayer forms in addition to the prayer of the Sacraments.
8. **Spirituality** - Know how to develop a personal relationship with God.

Specific Objectives: The measures used to determine successful completion of the goals.

1 Scripture: *The Gospel "falls by the wayside" when it is not really heard* (General Directory for Catechesis #15)

- A. Locate any chapter and verse of the Bible upon request
- B. Identify five literary forms used in the Bible and explain the value of using these various literary forms to deliver God’s message to His people
- C. Describe how the Bible is a collection of many books describing the history of salvation

written under God's inspiration

D. Describe how selected Sunday readings apply to his/her life

2 Doctrine

- A. Explain that "faith" is our lifetime response to God, who reveals Himself to us
- B. Explain that the word "creed" means a pledge of belief
- C. Describe how "grace" received through the sacraments strengthens us to grow in holiness and to live life with greater peace, love, and compassion.

3 Sacraments

- A. Identify that the Mass is a celebration of the paschal mystery which has five movements or sections (Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, Communion Rite, Concluding Rite)
- B. Identify a sign for each Sacrament and describe what each Sacrament celebrates (i.e. Baptism - water, Confirmation - Oil of Chrism, Eucharist - bread and wine)
- C. Explain the rituals and symbols associated with the liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter Triduum, Easter Season, and Ordinary Time

4 Community

- A. Describe the contributions of laity, religious, and ordained members of the Church
- B. Discuss strategies for dealing with thoughts and actions that are in conflict with Church teachings
- C. Identify ways he/she can be involved in appropriate Catholic responses to situations of social injustice within his/her community
- D. Explain his/her responsibility to call others to know, love, and understand Jesus
- E. Discuss the consequences of sin in the larger global community

5 Service

- A. Discuss service to neighbor in light of one's discernment of his/her gifts
- B. Participate in parish service programs such as St. Vincent de Paul, Relay for Life, liturgical ministries, etc. (If there is no parish program, consider starting one!)
- C. Report on current service projects and how the service demonstrates love and care for others
- D. Describe what participation in service projects has taught him/her
- E. Minister to the needs of peers in a manner appropriate to talents and gifts

6 Prayer

- A. Take leadership roles in preparing and directing a communal prayer service or liturgy
- B. Evaluate his/her practice of personal prayer and describe the changes that will strengthen his/her prayer life
- C. Discuss how perseverance in prayer is a necessity for Christian life

7 Spirituality

- A. Regularly practice an examination of conscience
- B. Set aside personal time for prayer

- C. Discuss literature and/or music that has a spiritual message
- D. Suggest experiences in people's lives that could be celebrated through some ritual that honors the sacredness of the occasion (birth, family reunion, moving into a new home, recovery from illness, travel)

Service Projects:

Every confirmand will be encouraged to discern his or her gifts, and use those gifts for the benefit of the community in at least 5 different ministries. We will provide multiple opportunities throughout the Confirmation program for the confirmand to serve the community under the guidance of adult ministers.

- Assisting with St. Vincent de Paul Open House/Food pantry
- Christmas caroling at local nursing homes
- Participating in liturgical ministries
- Visiting the homebound
- Assisting with Eagle Scout projects
- Feeding the hungry (My Brother's Table)
- Aiding the sick (Relay for Life)
- Many, many others!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Confirmand Commitment:

- ▶ Participate fully in classes and activities
- ▶ Keep all electronic devices out of class and other confirmation activities
- ▶ Eliminate all inappropriate language both in and out of class
- ▶ Attend Mass every Sunday and holy day of obligation
- ▶ Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- ▶ Pray daily, alone and with your family

Parent Commitment:

- ▶ Ensure your child attends scheduled religious education activities
- ▶ Eliminate all inappropriate language from activities
- ▶ Attend Mass on every Sunday and holy day of obligation
- ▶ Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- ▶ Pray daily, alone and with your family

2007-2008 CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Date	Liturgical Theme	Focus Topic(s)	Readings
October 6-7 27 th Week OT C Respect Life Sunday	Power of Faith	Introductory Retreat	Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 Luke 17:5-10
October 13 28 th Week OT C	Give thanks to God	Communion of Saints Liturgy Lord's Prayer	2 Kings 5:14-17 2 Timothy 2:8-13 Luke 17:11-19
October 20 29 th Week OT C	Power of Prayer	Power of Intercessions	Exodus 17:8-13 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2 Luke 18:1-8
October 27 30 th Week OT C World Youth Day (U.S.)	NO CLASS		Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 Luke 18:9-14
November 1	All Saints' Day - Holy Day of Obligation!!		Get to Mass!!!!
November 3 31 st Week OT C <i>Turn clocks back tonight</i>	God cherishes us	Poetry in Scripture Inherent Human Dignity Plan Mass	Wisdom 11:22-12:2 2 Thess 1:11-2:2 Luke 19:1-10
November 10 32 nd Week OT C	End of time and afterlife	Plan Mass	2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5 Luke 20:27-38
November 17 33 rd Week OT C	Judgment & Justice	Discernment of Gifts	Malachi 3:19-20 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12 Luke 21:5-19
November 24 34 th Week OT C Christ the King	NO CLASS Happy Thanksgiving!		2 Samuel 5:1-3 Colossians 1:12-20 Luke 23:35-43
December 1 1 st Week Advent A	Be watchful	Plan Mass	Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44
December 15 3 rd Week Advent A	The Kingdom is here	Miracles	Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11

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December 22 4 th Week Advent A	NO CLASS Merry Christmas!		Isaiah 7:10-14 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24
December 29 Feast of the Holy Family	NO CLASS Happy New Year!		Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14 Colossians 3:12-21 Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23
January 5 Epiphany	Messiah is for all people	Faith & Reason	Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12
January 12 Baptism of Lord	The new epiphany	Free Will Original Sin	Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Acts 10:34-38 Matthew 3:13-17
January 19 2 nd Week OT A	NO CLASS		Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 John 1:29-34
January 26 3 rd Week OT A Letter to Bishop Due!	Christian unity; Discipleship	Moral Conscience	Isaiah 8:23-9:3 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 Matthew 4:12-23
February 2 Presentation of the Lord 4 th Week OT A	Humility	Beatitudes	Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Matthew 5:1-12a Groundhog Day!
February 9 1 st Week Lent A	Sin & Salvation	Interior & Exterior Mortification	Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11
February 16 2 nd Week Lent A	NO CLASS		Genesis 12:1-4a 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 Matthew 17:1-9
March 1 4 th Week Lent A	Light & Darkness	Theology of the Body	1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41
March 7	Confirmation Class hosts Stations of the Cross		

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March 8 5 th Week Lent A	Resurrection	Theology of the Body	Ezekiel 37:12-14 Romans 8:8-11 John 11:1-45
March 14-15	Catholic Youth Convention		
Holy Week Preparation	Monday, March 10th Chrism Mass!!!!!!!!!!		Please join our Pilgrimage!
March 22 Easter	NO CLASS		
March 29 Divine Mercy Sunday	NO CLASS		
April 5 3 rd Week Easter A	Christ is Risen	Fruits & Gifts of the Holy Spirit	Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 1 Jn 2:1-5a Lk 24:35-48
April 12 4 th Week Easter A	The Good Shepard	10 Commandments Sacrament of Confirmation	Acts 4:8-12 1 Jn 3:1-2 Jn 10:11-18
April 19 5 th Week Easter A	Service to Community	Church Hierarchy Social Justice	Acts 9:26-31 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8
April 26 6 th Week Easter A	Practice for Confirmation Mass!		
Thursday, May 1	Sacrament of Confirmation 7:00 pm		
May 3 7 th Week Easter A	Wrap-up Party!!!!		Acts 1:12-14 1 Pt 4:13-16 Jn 17:1-11a
May 11 Pentecost A No class, but enjoy the birthday of the Church!			